

REMARKS

The present invention relates to the discovery that non-traditional export of certain pro-inflammatory cytokines lacking a signal sequence from a cell can be inhibited by copper chelation and/or administration to the cell of a truncated form of S100A13 lacking the basic residue portion.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 11-13, 15 and 17-19 have been amended herein merely to correct a clerical error. The specification has also been amended to incorporate priority information and to add an abstract to the application. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments.

Amendments to the Specification

The specification has been amended herein to properly reflect the priority information of the present Application. In particular, page 1 of the specification has been amended to indicate that the present Application is a continuation of International Application No. PCT/US02/27247, filed August 26, 2002, which claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/314,837, filed August 24, 2001. No new matter has been added as the present amendment merely serves to point out the relationship of the prior applications to the present application.

The specification has also been amended herein to properly add an abstract section to the application. Applicants respectfully point out that the present abstract is identical to the abstract filed in International Application No. PCT/US02/27247 and published on the face of International Publication Number WO 03/018595. Thus, the amendments to the specification do not add new matter.

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 11-13, 15 and 17-19 have been amended herein to merely correct a clerical error. Specifically, the Greek letter “ α ” relating to interleukin-1 alpha was inadvertently omitted in the abbreviation of interleukin-1 alpha at certain places in the text of the claims. The present amendments to the claims merely serve to correct this typographical error by inserting the Greek letter α in the blank following IL-1_. More specifically, at page 16, lines 32-33, the specification states “interleukin-1 alpha (IL-1_).” That is, the specification makes

clear that the parenthetical is an abbreviation of the term interleukin-1 alpha, but the “ α ” did not print within the parenthesis. Further, at page 7, line 18 to page 11, line 16, the specification makes it clear that the data disclosed relate to IL-1 α , as do the Examples commencing at page 39, line 30. Applicants respectfully point out that support for interleukin-1 alpha (IL-1 α) is found throughout the specification as filed which makes clear that the omission of this character was a typographical error. That is, the abbreviation of IL-1 α is recited correctly at numerous instances throughout the specification including, for example, at page 2, line 3, and at page 42, line 11. Accordingly, no new matter has been added by inserting the Greek letter α in the space following IL-1_ in the claims.

Similarly, claim 3 has been amended to insert the symbol “ Δ ” in the blank space of S100A13_BR, which was inadvertently omitted due to a clerical error. Support for S100A13 Δ BR is found in throughout the specification, for example, at page 44, line 32, among numerous instances throughout the specification as filed. Therefore, no new matter has been added by way of this amendment.

Summary

Applicants respectfully submit that each of claims 1-20 is in condition for allowance. Consideration and allowance of each of these claims are respectfully requested at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS MACIAG ET AL.

February 23, 2004 By: RAQUEL M. ALVAREZ

(Date)

RAQUEL M. ALVAREZ, PH.D., J.D.

Registration No. 45,807

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS, L.L.P.

1701 Market Street

Philadelphia, PA 19103-2921

Telephone: 215-963-5000

Direct Dial: 215-963-5403

Facsimile: 215-963-5001

E-Mail: ralvarez@morganlewis.com

Attorney for Applicants

RMA/QDN